

Program Assessment Plan
 American University
 Academic Program: CAS: Literature - BA

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Contact Person for Jeffrey Middents

Assessment:

Unit's Primary Department: Literature

COLA Reader -1: Daniel Kerr

COLA Reader -2: Kathy McAdams

Learning Outcome: Content Knowledge

Literature majors will be exposed to and demonstrate a broad knowledge of major and minor authors, major texts and contexts and defining intellectual issues of British and/ or American literature, enriched by familiarity with the same in other European and/ or non-European literature and/ or cinematic traditions.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 10/28/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
The Assessment Committee will sample syllabi in all survey courses. Measure Type: Other	100% of courses surveyed reflect sufficient breadth.	Every fourth academic year by undergraduate studies committee. Year A.	Yes
The Assessment Committee will evaluate a random sampling of A, B, and C papers/ exams from each survey course to determine whether or not students are gaining this broad knowledge. Measure Type: Written Assignment	75% of student papers reflect broad knowledge.	Every fourth academic year by undergraduate studies committee. Year A.	Yes

Learning Outcome: Analysis

Literature majors will hone their skills in analysis, interpretation and research.

Outcome Year: 2009-2010

2010-2011

2011-2012

2012-2013

Start Date: 10/28/2010

Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
The Assessment Committee will randomly sample papers of literature majors in 300 and 400 level topics courses to determine how many demonstrate quality close reading, interpretation and engagement with secondary materials. The papers will be from a range of grades. Measure Type: Written Assignment	75% of student essays demonstrate good close reading. 75% of student essays demonstrate good interpretive skills. 75% of student essays demonstrate good engagement with secondary materials.	Every fourth academic year by undergraduates studies committee. Year B.	Yes

Learning Outcome: Writing

Literature majors will write with clarity, creativity, and persuasiveness.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011

Start Date: 10/28/2010
Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
The Assessment Committee will sample 20% of senior student projects with a range of grades and compile strengths and weaknesses of the essays. Measure Type: Final Paper/ Final Project	75%	Every fourth academic year by undergraduates studies committee. Year C.	Yes

Learning Outcome: Cultural Significance

Literature majors develop and demonstrate an awareness of the significance of literature and of literary form, and of the role they play in the larger culture by being conversant in debates concerning literature's values as a creative endeavor.

Outcome Year: 2010-2011
Start Date: 10/28/2010
Outcome Status: Active Learning Outcome

Assessment Plan			
Assessment Measure	Target	Schedule/Cycle	Active
The Assessment Committee will examine one paper from 20% of students in Value of Literature. Measure Type: Written Assignment	75%	Every fourth academic year by the undergraduate studies committee. Year D.	Yes
The Assessment Committee will sample syllabi from literature courses to ensure that these issues are being taught. Measure Type: Written Assignment	100%	Every fourth academic year by undergraduates studies committee Year D	Yes